

ABSTRACT

A method of operating a vapor compression system, the vapor compression system defining a closed fluid circuit in which a refrigerant is circulated and having operably disposed therein, in serial order, a compressor, a high pressure heat exchanger, an expansion device and a low pressure heat exchanger. The method includes applying a variable thermal load on a first one of the heat exchangers, monitoring the thermal load placed on the first heat exchanger and controlling the operation of the system to limit the thermal load placed on the first heat exchanger when the thermal load exceeds a predetermined value. A heat exchange subsystem employed to limit the thermal load may include reducing the flow of a heat exchange medium over the heat exchanger or to recirculate the heat exchange medium in a manner which reduces the thermal load on the heat exchanger.